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PATENT
96794DIV3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
D. L. Gamel et al.

COMPONENT ALIGNMENT
APPARATUSES AND METHODS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222
December 17, 1999

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to the examination and prior to calculating the filing fee in the above-identified application (the "Subject Application"), please amend the Subject Application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please delete "APPARATUSES AND" from the Title.

After the CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS, please delete "Not

Applicable" and insert -- This application is a divisional application of United States

patent application serial number 08/915,862, filed August 21, 1997, -- therefor.

In the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract with the following: